

**GOOD NEWS SEMINARY AND BIBLE COLLEGE**

HANDBOOK AND COURSE CATALOG



 

**President/Chancellor**

**Dr. Lisa L. Cooper**

**Vice-President/Admin.**

**Dean of Students and Academics**

 **Dr. Joseph Albert**

 **Dr. Dennis Moore**

 **Dr. Eddie Hare, Jr**.

**Project Advisor**

**Dr. Gloria Word**

**Administrative Support**

**Dr. Sandra Y. Hare**

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Office Number

209-605-8777

goodnewsboardsecretary@gmail.com

https://gnsbc.college

Good News Seminary and Bible College, Inc.

***I GIVE YOU SOUND LEARNING, SO DO NOT FORSAKE MY TEACHING! PROV. 4:2***

Dear Potential Students,

Good News Seminary was established in 2011. Our vision is to educate our students to confront and establish spirituality in every context and opportunity. Good News Seminary and Bible College is an advocate of orthodoxy and orthopraxy. Our mission is to educate our students to confront and establish spirituality in every context and opportunity.

It is our desire to prepare men and women for whatever our Lord has called them to do and to be. The staff at GNSBC is dedicated to the purpose and vision of this Theological Institution, as it is their ministry to the Lord.

 If you choose GNSBC as the institution through which to earn your degree, be confident that you will not regret your decision.

With so many excellent Theological Institutions available today, I pray that the Lord guide and direct you to the right place to obtain your Christian education.

Blessings,

Dr. Lisa L. Cooper,

President

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***FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK***

“Study to show thyself approve unto God a workman that needed not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” (2 Timothy 2:15) With the understanding that studying the Word of God and applying the principles is imperative in our lives, we are equipping future skilled Theologians to become efficient and effective in the field of ministry.

Good News Seminary and Bible College, Inc., equips leaders for the global mission of the Church through biblical theological education and real world ministry experiences. Its primary purpose is to empower men and women to communicate and embody the Gospel effectively in whatever context God places them. Through a robust theological education, Good News offers its students a unique opportunity to prepare for service and leadership in the Church Community.

I sincerely say to current and future students that you must discipline yourself to pursue excellence in raising the standards within yourselves. As Christians, we need to demonstrate to the next generation, and our future leaders of tomorrow, the importance of getting an education and making a difference.

*Blessings!*

Dr. Lisa L. Cooper, Th.D.

President-Chancellor



***The Ministry of GNSBC, INC***

I. PURPOSE

 GNSBC is an evangelical, interdenominational, multiethnic and multinational community dedicated to the preparation of men and women for the manifold ministries of Christ and His church. Under the authority of Scripture, it seeks to fulfill its commitment to ministry through undergraduate, graduate and post graduate education, professional development and spiritual growth. In all its activities, including instruction, nurture, worship, service, research and publication, GNSBC strives for excellence in the service of Jesus Christ, under the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit, to the glory of the Father in Heaven.

II. EVANGELICAL COMMUNITY

 The GNSBC community - Board of Directors, Faculty, Staff and Students - believe that Jesus Christ, as revealed in the Holy Scripture and proclaimed in the power of the Holy Spirit, is the only ground for a person's reconciliation to God.

III. ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

 The Board of Directors and Faculty of GNSBC are committed to achieving and maintaining the highest academic standards in teaching, research and writing.

IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

 The Board of Directors of GNSBC acts as a decision making body for those matters for which it has responsibility as an advisory board to the President/Chancellor and the Dean of Students, on educational policies and practices.

V. ACADEMIC DEAN

**Academic Dean’s Chief Mission:**

The Dean’s main responsibility is to manage the academic mission of the Good News Seminary and Bible College (GNSBC). The Dean labors to ensure that their division meets its goals to educate students. This entails striving to improve the academic offerings and to update courses to meet changing trends and requirements that may be governed by the accreditation or local government.

Furthermore, the academic dean will work to attract top students and faculty to burnish the academic profile of their division in the seminary/college.

VI. CHRISTIAN SERVICE

 In order to meet the demand of the church today, the President and Faculty of GNSBC take seriously the apostolic description of the church's nature - one body, many members. For this reason, all the programs of GNSBC are designed to provide for a wide range of Christian service.

 VII. PERSONAL MATURITY

 The Administration and Faculty of GNSBC believe that Christ's church must minister to the whole person. Emotional healing in Christian perspective is the particular goal of the President, Board of Directors as this aim is shared by the faculty and staff. The ultimate objective is that every GNSBC graduate be equipped to model as well as foster in others a personal maturity which is demonstrated by loving service to others and responsible Christian discipleship.

VIII. SOCIAL CONCERN

 The Administration and Faculty of GNSBC have a deep-seated concern to demonstrate and to evoke a quality of discipleship which applies to biblical norms of love and justice in all human relationships.

IX. RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP

 GNSBC is committed to a responsible stewardship of its educational processes, facilities and financial resources.

***ABOUT GOOD NEWS SEMINARY AND BIBLE COLLEGE, INC.***

A. Our Mission

Our vision is to educate our students to confront and establish spirituality in every context and opportunity. Good News Seminary and Bible College is an advocate of orthodoxy and orthopraxy.

B. Our Vision

Our goal is to provide a biblically conservative theological education that will produce strong theological acumen, great leadership skills and a worshipping attitude.

Our students will exhibit competence in their presentations that is marked by solid preparation and reflection.

Our students will excel in biblical knowledge, spirituality and helping to participate in the building of healthy spiritual lives and churches.

C. Articles of Faith

Good News Seminary and Bible College accepts the Holy Scriptures as the revealed will of God, the all-sufficient rule for faith and for the purpose of maintaining general unity adopts the following statement of fundamental truths:

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. (II Timothy 3:16)
2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons; God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. (1 John 5:7-8)
3. We believe that the Church is a spiritual organism made up of all born again believers regardless of their denominational or organizational affiliation. We believe that the local church is the visible manifestation of this spiritual organism. We believe that the office of elder/pastor, as under-shepherds of the Chief shepherd, is to be filled by men who meet the qualifications listed in Scripture. (Ephesians 1:22-23; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 1 Timothy 2:15; Ephesians 5:23-27; 1 Timothy 3:1-7)
4. We believe legitimate sexual relations are exercised solely within marriage. Consequently, sexual activities outside of marriage (referred to in the New Testament as porneia – πορνεια) including but not limited to, adultery, premarital sex, homosexuality, and pedophilia are inconsistent with the teachings of the Bible, the church, and Good News Seminary and Bible College. Further, lascivious conduct, transgender behavior, and the creation and/or distribution and/or use of pornography, are incompatible with a Biblical Christian lifestyle (1 Thess. 4:3-8; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Gal. 5:19-21; 1 Thess. 5:22; Rom. 13:14).
5. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in the blessed hope of His personal visible future return to this earth to receive to Himself His Blood Bought Church that it may be with Him forever. (Isaiah 7:1-4, 9:6; Matthew 1:23, John 3:16, 17)
6. We believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious Blood of Christ. (Luke 24:47, Hebrews 11:1, 6, 7; 12:2)
7. We believe that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation. (Titus 3:5)
8. We believe in the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, according to John 14:17.
9. We believe in the resurrection of the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation. (1 Corinthians 15:3, 4, 20, 21; Galatians 6:7; II Corinthians 5:10; Roman 6:21)
10. We believe Christianity is the faith of enlightenment and intelligence. In Jesus Christ abide all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. All sound learning is, therefore a part of our Christian heritage. The new birth opens all human faculties and creates a thirst for knowledge. An adequate system of Christian education is necessary to a complete spiritual program for Christ's people. In Christian education there should be a proper balance between academic freedom and academic responsibility. Freedom in an orderly relationship of human life is always limited and never absolute. The freedom of a teacher in a Christian school, college, or seminary is limited by the preeminence of Jesus Christ, by the authoritative nature of the Scriptures, and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists.

As a prerequisite for attendance and continued enrollment, student shall be in good standing and affirm their agreement with the Articles of Faith and shall conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent therein.

D. Our Values

The values of Good News Seminary and Bible College are those essential things that guide how we carry out our mission. We summarize them in three words: Truth, Transformation and Testimony. Each value provides a focal point for the lifelong patterns we aim to develop in our students.

 E. Spiritual

It is the purpose of Good News Seminary and Bible College to develop in the lives of its students a spiritual life that is in harmony with the great doctrines taught, so that they may grow in the grace as well as in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Specifically, the goal is to educate and graduate students characterized by commitment to serving Christ, missionary and evangelistic zeal and a solid knowledge of the Scriptures. To accomplish these objectives, the seminary conducts a chapel program and give attention to its students’ ministry/service opportunities.

F. Academic

It is the purpose of the seminary to provide its students with the best in theological education so that they may be equipped to preach and teach the Word of God intelligently and presented zealously to the world. In keeping with this goal, every department is geared to emphasize the clear and accurate exposition of the Scriptures. The biblical languages are utilized to expose the inner meaning of the inspired text. Bible exposition, whether by synthesis or analysis, presents a connected and related interpretation of the infallible Book. Systematic theology moves towards a well-organized and structured arrangement of biblical truth. Historical theology engages itself to acquaint the student with the progress of the inerrant Word among the household of faith throughout the Christian era. Philosophy furnishes elements whereby the servant of Christ may give a well-developed reason for the faith that is within. Missions, Christian ministry and leadership, and Christian education strive to perfect in the student a skillful and winsome presentation of the truth, privately and publicly. Good News Seminary and Bible College stands for one faith, one integrated curriculum, one eternal Word of God and is effective proclamation to this generation with its multiplicity of needs.

Current and detailed information concerning academic policies is provided by the Student Handbook.

Changes are effective from time to time in the general regulations and academic policies. There are establish procedures for making changes and for making such changes known to the students of the seminary. A curriculum or graduation requirement, when altered, is not made retroactive unless the alteration is to the student’s advantage and can be accommodated within the span of years normally required for graduation.

Each student is responsible for knowing and understanding current academic policies. Ignorance of a policy which appears in a student handbook or in the catalog is not a valid reason for granting an exception to any policy.

G. Violation of School Expectations

The Dean will meet with the student involved in an attempt to determine the nature of the School Agreement violation. The Dean may consult with other professors in order to formulate a plan to assist the student in aligning with the school expectations as well as a timeline for periodic review. Depending on the nature of the violation, a written copy of the plan may be given to the student and a copy placed in the student’s file. At times the nature of the violation may require a more thorough investigation. If that is necessary, the Dean will conduct an investigation of the violation by meeting with those involved to determine the nature of the conduct and an appropriate plan of action. A written summary of the violation and the plan of response or remediation will be given to the student and placed in his/her file within 30 days of the start of the investigation. A student may appeal the decision and plan in action developed by the Dean by means of the process delineated in the Good News Seminary and Bible College Student Handbook. The appeal should be initiated within 10 days of the written plan being delivered to the student.

*H. SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT*

One of the most significant aspects of your seminary experience is the intentional development of your spiritual life. In an academic environment, personal spirituality often becomes the easiest area to neglect. The Apostle Paul was very intellectual, he also sought intensely to know more of Christ (Philippians 3:10).

Your spiritual growth is dependent in large measure upon your devotional life. The Psalmist emphasizes the importance of God’s word for godly living, and Scripture promises, “The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much” (James 5:16). There is no substitute for the Bible study and personal prayer if one desires to “grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (II Peter 3:18).

We urge you to set aside daily time for personal devotions. Certainly there is much to be gained from group prayer meetings, mission’s prayer meetings and student devotional programs. However, these are not sufficient to satisfy the Christian’s deepest spiritual need. Your daily schedule may be heavy, your course of study may demand much time; but time for private prayer, meditation upon his Word and integration of scriptural truths into your personal life and public ministry are God’s indispensable way for spiritual development.

***ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND POLICIES***

 Admission to GNSBC goes beyond the applicant’s academic record. It encompasses Bible knowledge, Christian experience and spiritual growth, faithfulness to Christian ministry, moral character, experience and academic achievement. Such people are characterized by having compassion for individuals, sensitivity for community needs, a burden for Christ’s work on earth, acceptance of correction, a desire for moral growth, personal integrity and, above all, a deep trust in Jesus Christ as the foundation for life and ministry.

As a Christian Seminary/College, it is GNSBC policy that all students be part of a local fellowship where they have spiritual accountability and they are both serving the local body and learning the Word of God.

GNSBC admits a student regardless of race, color, and national or ethnic origin, and grants all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to all other students at GNSBC. Furthermore, GNSBC does not discriminate based on race, color, national/ethnic origin, or physical disabilities in the administration of its educational and other policies, admissions, disciplinary actions, scholarship and other school administered programs.

GNSBC will allow a person to visit one to four classes on one school night. If he/she chooses to seek another visit, he/she must contact the school administrator. The administrator will determine if it is feasible for a second visit. The person must enroll as an audit student or as a full time student to be able to continue attending the class/classes. All tuition fees will apply.

I. THE APPLICATION PROCESS

An applicant desiring to enroll in the Theology degree program must complete and submit an Application for Admission to the seminary/College. Upon submission, the application should include the following:

1. Two passport-size current photos for their academic file.

2. Copy of a high school diploma or equivalent.

3. College transcripts: If you expect to transfer credits from other institutions of higher education, request a complete, official transcript from each institution and have them sent directly to our campus in California at the following address:

Good News Seminary and Bible College, 77 W. 1st St. Tracy CA. 95376.

4. Life Experience Resume: This is a formal, professional resume detailing all positions held and training received which the student believes is pertinent to the degree program he/she is applying for.

5. Application fee of $150.00 for all applicants. Application fees are non-refundable.

6. Late registration: The student must register for the upcoming semester by the designated deadline. Late registration is open until the third session. After the third session, a student must petition and it is subject to the Dean’s approval.

II. THE EVALUATION PROCESS

The student application is reviewed by the School Administrator and then forwarded to the Dean of students for evaluation. Transferable credits through evaluation may be applicable. A Promissory Note Financial Agreement is then sent to the applicant showing the total cost for the program.

Upon receipt of the applicant’s signed financial agreement and initial tuition payment, an official enrollment letter is sent, along with a Course of Study prepared by the Dean of Students. With the evaluation process completed, the new student will receive a notice of scheduled courses for their degree program.

A. Credit by Evaluation of Life Experience Resume

After evaluation of the candidate’s application and “Life Experience Resume” by the Dean of Admissions, advanced standing credit may be granted. A letter of certification may be requested. The following factors will be taken into consideration:

 1. Previous courses completed in the field of study. 2. Past experience in the field of study. 3. Church-sponsored Bible studies or teacher training. 4. Significant life events that have a relation to self-education. 5. Any formal training past the secondary-school level.

B. Change of Major/Update of Application

In the event that a student wishes to change his/her major or update his/her application after the enrollment process has been completed, the student must do the following:

 1. The student must submit a formal letter to the Seminary/College requesting a change of major or update of his/her current application. 2. The student must submit an updated application to the Seminary/College (change of major only). 3. The student will be assessed a non-refundable re-evaluation fee of $100.00.

**EXPENSES**

I. TUITION & FEES

A. Tuition - Yearly

 1. Undergraduate Level  Associate ...........................1400.00 $  Bachelor .…………..$1600.00

2. Graduate Level  Master .................................................................................................. $2,000.00

3. Doctorate Level ……………………………………………………………………………$2400.00

4. Ph.D under review ………………………………………………….…………………… $5000.00

5. Certificate Program ……………………………………………………………………… Varies

**GNSBC does not participate in any financial aid or tuition assistance programs.**

B. Fees

 1. Application Fee: $150.00 for Undergraduate applicants, $150.00 for Master applicants, and $200.00 for Doctorate applicants. Application fees are nonrefundable.

2. Re-evaluation Fee: Students wishing to change their major or update their current application (by modifying their “Life Experience Resume” or submitting new transcripts from other institutions) will be assessed a non-refundable re-evaluation fee: $100.00 for Undergraduate applicants, $150.00 for Master applicants, and $200.00 for Doctorate applicants. Students who have been placed on Inactive Status may also be assessed this fee.

 3. Course Extension Fee: Each course must be completed within 90 days. Students may request a 21-day extension for a fee equal to one half a credit at current tuition rates. No more than two extensions will be granted per course. If, after both extensions, the course is still incomplete, the student will be withdrawn from the course and must reenroll, paying the current cost for one credit hour.

4. Course Reenrollment Fee: Students who receive either an incomplete on or withdrawal from a course may re-enroll in the same course at a later date but at the current cost of one credit hour.

5. Return Check Fee: GNSBC will charge a $25.00 fee for every returned tuition check due to insufficient funds. After two returned checks, the student may no longer pay by personal check -- other options are cash, PayPal, debit/credit card, or money order/cashiers’ check.

6. Late Payment Fee: A fee is assessed each month that a student’s account is in arrears. The fee is $10.00 after five days passed the due date of the 15th of each month.

7. Program Extension Fee: From the date of enrollment, students must complete their degree programs according to the following guidelines:

Associate ................................................................ 1year

Bachelor .................................................................. 2years

Master ..................................................................... 4 years

Doctorate .................................................................6 years

Ph.D.......................................................................... Under review

If this requirement is not met within the allotted time, the student will be assessed a $300.00 program extension fee. The student will then have one year from the extension date to complete their degree.

 Additional Fees:

8. Graduation Fees: The following fees apply to qualifying students who have completed their degree programs and participate in the commencement exercises.

 a) Associate & Bachelor Degree Program ................ $35.00 This fee covers the cost of a cap, gown, and tassel that the student keeps as a memento.

b) Master Degree Program ........................................ $100.00 This fee covers the cost of a high quality Master’s gown, a Master’s hood with the Seminary/College colors, cap and tassel.

c) Doctorate Degree Program ................................... $300.00 This fee covers the cost of a high quality Doctor’s gown with deluxe high quality pile velvet, a Doctor’s hood with the university’s colors, doctoral tam, tassel.

d)  Good News is currently using the modality of Zoom Videoconferencing since Fall 2020. This is causing us to require additional equipment and tools per syllabus and/or professor. This may incur additional fees that may be required by the student.

II. FINANCIAL AGREEMENTS

All applicants must also sign and submit a “Promissory Note Financial Agreement.” Tuition may be paid as follows:

Undergraduate Students: AA - $1400.00 divided by 10 monthly payments = $140.00 per month.

BA- $1600.00 divided by 10 monthly payments = $160.00 per month.

Graduate Students—Master Level: $2000.00 divided by 10 monthly payments = $200.00 Monthly.

Doctorate Level: $2400.00 divided by 10 monthly payments = $240.00 per month.

An initial tuition payment must be paid at the signing of the financial agreement as follows: undergraduate students - $100.00., graduate level $150.00, and $200.00 doctoral level.

All financial agreements are legally binding and after 90 days of enrollment will not be canceled regardless of the student’s academic status with the Seminary/College.

Good News Seminary students will use Stripe Pay System, located in Quickschools to make tuition payments.

III. REFUND POLICY

Students must notify the Seminary/College in writing of their intention to withdraw. The withdraw date will be the date the notification is received by the Seminary/College. This date will be used in calculating the amount of prepaid tuition to be refunded. The following refund policy will apply:

A. Application Fee

The application fee is non-refundable (as indicated on Application for Admission forms).

B. Prepaid Tuition

Students who opt to pay the tuition in full or quarterly, the refund of prepaid tuition will be as follows:

 From 21-30 days from enrollment - 80%  From 31-60 days from enrollment - 60%  From 61-90 days from enrollment - 40%  After 90 days from enrollment - 0%

Students expelled for disciplinary reasons will be refunded the prorated portion of the prepaid tuition within 60 days.

C. Monthly Tuition

No refund is applicable for students who opt to pay on a monthly basis.

***ACADEMIC POLICIES***

I. ACADEMIC STANDARDS & REQUIREMENTS

 A. Associate Degree

 1. A copy of high school transcript or equivalent.

 2. Students are required to complete a total of 60 credit hours. GNSBC may grant through evaluation of transferred college credits (24 maximum), a standardized Biblical competency exam and/or life experience credits (15 maximum). Combined credits cannot exceed 60% of the degree program (36 maximum).

 3. Students must have an overall grade point average of 2.0 or better.

 4. Students must complete no less than 24 credit hours at GNSBC.

 5. Students must complete the program within four years of the enrollment date.

B. Bachelor Degree

 1. A copy of high school transcript or equivalent.

 2. Students are required to complete a total of 120 credit hours. GNSBC may grant through evaluation of transferred college credits (48 maximum) and/or life experience credits (30 maximum). Combined credits cannot exceed 60% of the degree program (72 maximum).

 3. Students must have an overall grade point average of 2.0 or better.

 4. Students must complete no less than 48 credit hours at GNSBC.

 5. Students must complete the program within four years of the enrollment date.

 C. Master Degree

 1. Students are required to complete a minimum of 51 credit hours. The Master of Theology requires the completion of a minimum of 81 credit hours. Transferred credits cannot exceed 40% of the degree program.

2. Most Masters’ programs require a thesis. Each thesis must be approved prior to being submitted, must be related to the field of study, and should be 20,000 words in length.

 3. Students must have completed a bachelor’s degree program, or equivalent, in a complimentary field of study. Notwithstanding this policy, students may - at the discretion of the President and the Dean of Students be granted a tailored program, which would be uniquely created to reach the desired educational standard of a student that holds a bachelor degree in any field of study. In such cases, the student must complete some additional coursework, which will be determined during the admissions process.

 4. Students must complete no less than 30 credit hours at GNSBC.

 5. Student must complete the program within five years of the enrollment date.

 6. Master of Theology applicants must-70 have completed a Bachelor Degree program in Biblical Studies or Theology. Other Bachelor degrees would require prerequisite GNSBC courses taken at the undergraduate level to qualify.

 D. Doctorate Degree

 1. A Master’s Degree is required of all candidates and candidates may register any time.

 2. A minimum of two letters of recommendation that address the candidate’s capacity for doctoral study.

 3. Persons seeking a second doctorate are encouraged to examine the program carefully, as requirements may vary somewhat. No standardized test scores need to be submitted.

 4. Candidates must complete 50 credit hours in a doctoral degree program.

 5. Candidates must complete the program within six years of the enrollment date.

II. GRADING SCALE & CRITERIA

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SCORE | RANGE | LETTER GRADE | GRADE POINT AVERAGE |
| 0 |  0-59% | F | 0.00 |
| 60.0 | 60-64% |  D-  | 0.67 |
| 65.0 | 65-67% | D | 1.00 |
| 68.0 | 68-70% |  D+ | 1.33 |
| 71.0 | 71-74% |  C- | 1.67 |
| 75.0 | 75-78% | C | 2.00 |
| 79.0 | 79-82% |  C+ | 2.67 |
| 83.0 | 83-86% |  B- | 2.33 |
| 87.0 | 87-90% | B | 3.00 |
| 91.0 | 91-93% |  B+ | 3.33 |
| 94.0 | 94-96% |  A- | 3.67 |
| 97.0 | 97-100% | A | 4.00 |

A. Pass/Fail Grading

Certain courses/Professors will utilize the pass/fail grading option to enhance the learning objective.

 B. Scholastic Honors

 To be eligible for graduation with honors, a student must have earned a minimum cumulative GNSBC grade average of 3.50 and must have completed the minimum number of credit hours required by GNSBC policy for a Theology Degree.

 The specific honors levels are as follows:

 3.50 to 3.74 GPA ..................................... Cum Laude

 3.75 to 3.99 GPA ..................................... Magna Cum Laude

 4.00 GPA .................................................Summa Cum Laude

 C. Grading Policy

 Examination grades are to be posted within two weeks of examination date. Noncompliance will delay issuance of honorarium.

 III. PERMANENT ACADEMIC RECORD

 All grades are recorded as a permanent part of the student’s academic history. Adjustments for incomplete courses may be corrected within two years; otherwise, they remain part of the student’s permanent academic record.

 IV. CHRISTIAN CONDUCT & DISCIPLINE

 GNSBC expects all members of its community to live with wholesome Christian character and standards.

 When any member of the Seminary/College community believes that another member is in violation of biblical standards or conduct, the steps of loving confrontation as outlined in Matthew 18:16-22 will be implemented. An unrepentant student may be expelled at the discretion of the President and/or School Board of Directors.

 V. ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

 A. Academic Standard

 GNSBC is an institution of higher education and, as such, expects those enrolled with the Seminary and Bible College to perform at a four-year college level. Students who do not meet college-level academic standards in their coursework may be referred to their local community college for further general education.

 All students are required to maintain a 2.0 or better grade point average. If the student fails to obtain a 2.0 in a grading period, they are placed on Academic Probation until the next grading period.

Upon the next grading period the student must have a 2.0 or better or be subject to receiving a letter of dismissal. Upon dismissal, the student must schedule an appointment with the Academic Dean to petition for reinstatement. The decision of the Academic Dean is final.

B. Attendance Policy

The GNSBC attendance policy is based upon consistent attendance and participation are vital to a student's success. If a student is unavailable to attend, it is their responsibility to contact the Administrator or it will be classified as an unexcused absence. When a student reaches two excused absences, their professor will contact in order to determine if a student is at risk. .If the student has three unexcused absences, they will be contacted by the Academic Dean and a report will be entered into their file. Four unexcused absences are grounds for dismissal. Students who are dismissed for attendance are not eligible for a refund.

C. Inactive Status

It is incumbent upon all students to be faithful in their coursework and financial obligations to the seminary/College. If a student fails to produce coursework and maintain his/her financial responsibilities for a period of one year, he/she is placed on inactive status.

All credits earned and monies paid at the point of inactivity are credited to the student’s account. Should the student desire to reactivate their status and continue his/her education at GNSBC, he/she must re-enroll with the university, paying the current application fee rate. If there is an outstanding tuition balance, payments will resume at the student's original tuition rate beginning with an initial three-month payment.

 A prerequisite for attendance and continued enrollment is stated in the Articles of Faith. If a student has accumulated 4 unexcused absences, whereby no notification was given to the school administrator, they will be placed on temporary probation. The probation is for a period 7 days during which time the student is responsible for scheduling a meeting with the dean of their respective campus to discuss this matter. Failure to communicate is grounds for automatic dismissal. The Dean’s decision shall be final.

D.  Withdrawal Policy

Students that withdraw after the ninth week are responsible for the balance of their outstanding tuition. Withdrawals that are medically related are subject to the approval of the Dean and Administration.

E. Cheating Policy

Good News Seminary and Bible College is an advocate of personal integrity and academic excellence hence there is zero tolerance for Cheating. Offenders will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

VI. CLASS/COURSE ENROLLMENT & STRUCTURE

 After the application process has been completed, the student may enroll in a class or course that corresponds to his/her degree program. Applications are available via email request or United States Postal Service.

 A. Class/Course Enrollment

 Enrollment period is four weeks prior to start of the new semester. Students are responsible for obtaining the textbook for each course prior to class start date. When applicable, GNSC textbook compilations and audiotape commentary courses are mailed to students, along with an invoice for material/shipping costs. All invoices are prepaid before shipping to the student.

B. Class/Course Structure

1. On-site classes. On-site classes are two 17- 18 week per semester. Class meeting times are set between 6:00PM and 10:00PM. Class days are Monday or Thursdays or other days per campus. A student’s grade is usually determined upon attendance and performance on quizzes, midterms, writing assignments and final exams.

2. Off-site courses. Off-site courses are sent directly to the address specified by the student upon request. Each course is sent in the form of a study guide, which includes:

  Course instructions

 Additional assignments

 Examination (TBD)

All courses must be proctored. The proctor must sign the “Proctor Form” which certifies that the student has completed the course him/herself. Coursework must be neatly typed and properly formatted in accordance with the general instructions of the study guide.

VII. MISSIONARY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

GNSBC will match any church’s sending contribution toward tuition for an active missionary on foreign soil up to 25% of the degree program.

 VIII. REFERRAL PROCESS

 GNSBC will credit $50.00 (per referral) toward the referring student’s account once the potential student completes a full semester and fulfil their financial obligation.

IX. GRADUATION

 Commencement ceremonies are determined based on the amount of students graduating each year. Graduations are held in the spring of each year.

 A. Information & Preparation

At least two months in advance, GNSBC will notify, in writing, those students who have fulfilled or are near to fulfilling the requirements of their degree programs.

 Students will also receive a memo detailing the date, time, and location of the commencement ceremony; a “Commencement Ceremony Questionnaire”. The questionnaire must be completed and returned to GNSBC at least six weeks prior to graduation.

B. Graduation Requirements:

All graduate students must complete their theses and dissertations by the due date in the Project Handbook in order to be eligible for graduation and the commencement. Failure to do so, will cause them to not receive their degree and be excluded from the commencement.

Thesis and Doctoral students who did not complete their reports but were allowed to graduate with their class are required to re-enroll for school to be eligible to complete and get credit for their thesis and dissertation work. That fee for extending the privilege is $100.00 for thesis and $150.00 for dissertation completion.  They have one semester to complete this assignment.  If it is not completed by the end of the fall semester, they must petition GNB of directors with a letter asking for 1 semester extension with another $100.00 or $150.00 to be paid at the start of the semester.

 If not completed in that course of time their degree and dissertation will not be valid with GNSBC.



Good News Seminary and Bible College, Inc.

Good News Seminary and Bible College, Inc., was established in 2011, in the state of Delaware.

NOTE TO STUDENT: If you are planning to transfer or forward this degree to another academic institution, it is best to inquire about scholastic compatibility ahead of time to avoid setbacks. Additionally, GNSBC programs are not designed to satisfy credentialing or licensure requirements for professional careers.

GNSBC is a non-profit institution of learning that operates with religious exemption for federal and state tax purposes. As such, GNSBC does not participate in the Department of Education student aid programs. Claiming education credit for tuition paid to GNSBC is precluded by its religious exemption status. The IRS does not authorize such claims.

Good News Seminary and Bible College

**Course Requirements**

**Associate in Biblical Studies-**Core Curriculum Total Credits: 60

The curriculum includes courses in Old and New Testament studies, theology, church history, evangelism, and Christian education. GNSBC may grant, through evaluation of transferred college credits (24 maximum), a standardized Biblical competency exam and/or life experience credits (15 maximum).

**Bachelor of Theology B.Th**.-Core Curriculum Total Credits: 60 (4 credits each)

 Old Testament Survey 4

New Testament Survey 4

Intro to the Bible I 4

Life of Christ I & II 4

Introduction to Bible Study Methods 4

Life of David I & II 4

Introduction to Evangelism 4

Exegesis Book of Acts I & II 4

Introduction to Apologetics 4

Christian History I 4

Thesis Preparation 4

(4) Four Electives \* (see page 3) 16

The primary purpose of the Bachelor of Theology in Theology is to equip persons with competent introductory leadership in some formal specialized ministry and congregations and other settings. It also provides the foundations for a basic understanding of theological disciplines in preparation for graduate study. It also aims to serve as a scholarly enhancement of ministerial practice in preparation for some forms of basic teaching of Theology.

**Master of Theology M.Th**.-Major Curriculum Total Credits: 60

 Introduction to Systematic Theology 4

 Systematic Theology I-Christology, Pneumatology, 4

 Soteriology, Ecclesiology

 Hermeneutics I & II 4

Homiletics 4

Christian Thought 4

Gospel of John 4

Exegesis Book of Romans 4

Minor and Major Prophets 4

Pastoral Care 4

Ethics 4

Dissertation Preparation 4

Christian Counseling (Ministry Foundation) 4

Greek 4

 Hebrew 4

 (3) Three Electives \* (see page 3)

The purpose of the Master of Theology in Theology is to provide a basic understanding of theological disciplines for further graduate study or for general educational purposes. The program may serve a variety of aims: further graduate study at the doctoral level, preparation and the extent that stray’s together for some forms of teaching, the scholarly enhancement a ministerial practice, or disciplined reflection on a specialized function in ministry.

**Doctor of Theology Th.D**.-Total Credits 48

 Dissertation

 One (1) week of outreach

The purpose of the Doctor of Theology in Theology is to provide a more advanced understanding of theological disciplines for further graduate study or for general educational purposes. The program may serve a variety of aims: preparation for some forms of teaching, the scholarly enhancement of ministerial practice, or disciplined reflection on a specialized function in theology.

\*Electives (4 credits each)

* 1. Counseling
	2. Leadership
	3. Church planning
	4. Worship
	5. Prayer
	6. Introduction to Missions (Bachelor recommendation)
	7. Pastoral Outreach (Master Recommendation)

**Course Descriptions**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **COURSE TITLE** | **DESCRIPTION**  |
|  |  |
|  | **ASSOCIATE AND BACHELOR** |
|  |  |
| Christian History I  | Church History is the study of the past events of God’s people in Christ Jesus. During this semester, we will survey the time period from Christ to the Pre-Reformation. Topics will include theology, people, places and events. |
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| Exegesis Book of Acts I & II 405 | An examination of the Book of Acts focusing upon the principles found in the New Testament church. |
|  |  |
|  Inductive Bible Study 100 | “Inductive” defined is a way to describe something that leads to something else. When we apply it to reasoning it means you collect information and draw conclusions from what you observe. It relates to reasoning. This course is intended to teach the art and science of reading the Bible. It is designed to expose and help the student to understand, apply, and experience the awesome power of God’s Words in our lives. It will promote the cultivation of spiritual nourishment. |
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| Introduction to Apologetics 101 | The student will be taught how to defend their religious beliefs by way of exegesis. |
|  |  |
| Introduction to Bible 103 | The student will learn and understand the methods taught by the textbook (“How To Read the Bible Like a Seminary Professor”). They will be able to relate to the pragmatics of the Bible and know the rules that guide our interpretation.  |
|  |  |
| Introduction to Missions 241 | *Missions by the Book* contains a light critique of the Church Planting Movement (CPM) and the Disciple Making Movement (DMM). The critique, it is written from a positive stance advocating a biblical basis of missions (and thus the book’s title). One of the main points is that the Bible gives us a method for missions, and we are not to depart from that method ([proclamational model](https://cpmcritic.com/category/proclamation/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)). The authors also cover numerous other topics, including the role of the Holy Spirit in missions, the theology of the church in missions, missionary suffering, the scope of the missions (the “nations”), the motivation for missions, and the exclusivism of Christ—among others. |
|  |  |
| Life of Christ I & II 90 | The author, Dr. J. Dwight Pentecost, focuses on the literal method that Jesus Christ was introduced to the nation Israel as her Messiah. Momentarily he recounts his earlier years when he followed the customary geographical approach to the examination of the life of Christ. It became evident to Dr. Pentecost that he desired to emphasize the life of Jesus Christ from a different theme which is presented in this textbook. This textbook directs the reader to a fresh look beyond the geographical spectrum and places the focus on a walk through the authenticated life of Jesus Christ. The author reaches to track the expansion and the presentation of the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ and to show the contribution that each individual incident makes to the overall development. In the Person of Christ we can better understand the facts of His humanity and His divinity. |
|  |  |
| Life of David I & II 110 | David’s life shows us how we can learn from a man who was utterly human but reached for the divine. David was a shepherd and a king; a soldier and a poet; a sinner and a saint. Despite his many faults, David became a man who wondrously understood and reflected the mind of a perfect God. Both men and women will find themselves identifying with David's struggles and triumphs, giving them a glimpse of how God is continually shaping them as well. The turbulent and triumphant incidents in the life of the shepherd-king David illustrate that truth most clearly. During this study, you will have an opportunity to analysis and gain understanding of David's great faith in the midst of trouble and tranquility, and how we can draw closer to God and come into a better understanding of His grace and salvation: |
|  |  |
| New Testament Survey 102 | This course is an introductory overview of the New Testament from Matthew to Revelation. We will focus on the Gospel and the Kingdom of God, as well as the formation of the Church, with an emphasis on how this impacts the mission of the Church today. Though every professor thinks their class is the most important study, we may confidently say that this study is vital to your personal journey and continued growth as a disciple of Jesus Christ, to your understanding of essential elements of the Christian faith that will help you as you prepare to lead your community to faith in and maturation as disciples of Jesus Christ, and to be equipped to fulfill your role in the mission of God’s people. |
|  |  |
| Old Testament Survey 101 | An in-depth study of the books in the Old Testament. Surveying important key texts and promises/covenants of God to man that paved the way as the foundation of our faith. Students will develop a new appreciation of the ancient scripture, along with the laws, through a deeper understanding and comprehension of what it depicts, why it is depicted, and how to apply it in our lives in combination with the grace we are currently under through Christ.  |
|  |  |
| Thesis Preparation 340 | This course will introduce and familiarize students to the practice of writing for academic purposes. The student will be completely familiar with the GNSBC Research Project Handbook, 2023 edition. This writing class was created to teach essay, reflection, thesis, and dissertation preparation and composition skills. Also, to prepare students for work at a higher level of English in which research writing is a requirement. This class will introduce basic research writing skills which include conducting research, note taking, paraphrase, introduction, body, conclusion, summary, direct quotation, positioning and the Chicago style citation. Emphasis will be on structure, coherence, unity; micro-level skills such as: sentence structure, grammar, vocabulary, spelling, and other mechanics of writing.  |
|  |  |
| Witness & Evangelism 250  | This course is designed to assist the student in advancing their skills in the evangelical and witnessing experience. It also gives essential foundational tools for witnessing. It will dramatically alter your perceptions, biases, and some of your most cherished ideas about yourself, your assignment and your role in the Kingdom Enterprise.  |
|  |  |
| Worship  | This course is a study on the knowledge of the Holy ‘Attributes of God’. We will look at how the church has lost its reverence to God in worship. The author suggest that the Church has surrendered her once lofty concept of majesty from the popular religious mind. We will discuss matters of the churches spiritual loss and how to find our way back to spirituality in the church. How do we recoup this loss? It is impossible to keep our moral practices sound and our in-word attitude right, while our idea of God is erroneous or inadequate.  |
|  |  |
|  | **MASTER AND DOCTORATE** |
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| Apologetics-501, 502 | A study of the defense of Christianity, with emphasis on the biblical and theological foundation, methodology, and contemporary challenges to the truth of Christianity.  |
|  |  |
| Christian Thought-510, 520 | When Christians seek to understand God they usually put on religious blinders and practically ignore the possibility that God could be present in religions other than Protestant Christianity. That God is only real in the Christian faith. That Christians are the only ones who have answers to understanding God. That is what this course is all about. Wrestling with such questions as: Is Jesus the only way to the Father and heaven? Are other religions who serve God in a different way wrong? Is the Bible the only genuine book that contains the Words of God? These subjects and more will be analyzed and discussed in this course. |
|  |  |
| Dissertation Preparation 340 |  This is a research and writing course for students in seminary and bible college. The text book focuses on the how to prepare theological academic papers. The text book explainshow to research and write exegetical papers, theological Essays and summaries; reflection papers and research papers.This class will use the practical strategies and tools found in this textbook to help students begin to create better research and writing assignments; to learn the importance of theological style writing. The course will teach the student how to write a professional book review. Discuss the main issues a book raises and tell the reader of your review whether the author of the book achieves his or her purpose in writing, the student will learn the difference between reviewing a book and summarizing a book. (Diane Capitani)Furthermore, this class will focus on all of the paper and essay styles mentioned in the description above. Also the appendix will be used to enhance the students learning experience.  |
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| Exegesis Book of John-535 | This course is an in-depth study of the gospel of John. Students will determine who they believe wrote this book, when it was written and to whom it was addressed. The author's translation is used to exegete each verse of the book. Students will learn the unique aspects of the book of John as well as how this unique book relates to the synoptic gospels and the entirety of Scripture. Students will come to see the uniqueness of Johannine theology. |
|  |  |
| Hebrew and Greek 101 | This course provides a practical guide to the main components of biblical Hebrew and Greek. It provides guidance through key ideas in Hebrew and Greek, using insights gleaned from linguistic studies of languages around the world. |
|  |  |
| Hermeneutics I & II 210 | Hermeneutics is the theory and methodology of interpretation, especially the interpretation of biblical texts, wisdom literature, as well as philosophical texts. As necessary, hermeneutics may include the art of understanding and communication. |
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| Homiletics 400 | This course is an introduction to the theories and practices of preaching in a zoom classroom setting. Throughout the semester, the students will preach in class, learn different styles of preaching, study the various dynamics of preaching (biblical, theological, hermeneutical, exegetical) and understand their relation to the regular practice of preaching. Students will also evaluate each other's sermons and offer feedback for the purpose of clarity, accountability, and improvement. |
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| Ministry Foundation 200 (Christian Counseling ) | The course and text book is about how God uses people, who are themselves in need of change, as instruments of the same kind of change in others. The goal is not just that people’s lives would be changed as they give help and receive it. The goal is to help change the church’s vey culture. (Paul David Trip) |
|  |  |
| Minor and Major Prophets 220 | Major and Minor Prophets is a study through the last books of the Old Testament (Isaiah through Malachi).  The study of the message and ministry of each prophet will be looked at. You will learn how the seventeen prophetic books are structured and organized in your Bible. Then you will discover the main messages in each book. |
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| New Testament Theology-550 (Christology) | This course analyzes the state of religion, particularly the New Testament theology. It begins with a brief survey of the development and structure of the New Testament theology. The study of God as creator, Father, and King and the attributes of God in the contemporary world. The primary attention is given to the authority of God’s self-disclosure in Scripture. The subject then shifts to broadening the students' minds by helping them empathetically understand various perspectives while training them to think critically for themselves. |
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| Systematic Theology I- 400 (Christian Theology) | This course is an in-depth study of Christian Theology. Christian Theology is defined and discussed as distinct from biblical, historical, philosophical and systematic theology. |
| Ecclesiology 400 | Ecclesiology comes from the Greek words ekklesia (church/assembly) and ology (study of) and refers to the study of the church. In Christian systematic theology, ecclesiology is one of the major areas of study and investigates what the Bible teaches about the church both universal (all believers in Christ) and local (local gatherings of believers in Christ). (E-Dictionary)Ecclesiology helps us to understand the role of the church and our role in the church. It teaches us about the ordinances of the church, how church leadership is to be chosen and structured, and what the church is to be doing in regards to believers (worship and discipleship) and unbelievers (ministry and evangelism). A Biblical understanding of Ecclesiology would go a long way to correct many of the common problems in churches today. Above all, we must understand that the church is the Body of Christ and that each of us has a specific function and role within that body. (Got?) |
|  |  |
| Pneumatology 101 | The term pneumatology comes from two Greek words, namely, pneuma meaning “wind,” “breathe,” or “spirit” (used of the Holy Spirit). As it is used in Christian systematic theology, “pneumatology” refers to the study of the biblical doctrine of the Holy Spirit. Generally this includes such topics as the Personality of the Spirit, the Deity of the Spirit, Symbols of the Spirit, and the work of the Spirit throughout Scripture. The Holy Spirit work in the life of a Christian as Evidences of a Spirit-Filled, Mark by Spirit, Fullness of the Spirit, Anointing by the Spirit, and The Fruit of the Spirit. |
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Good News Seminary and Bible College

**Administration and Faculty**

**2023-2024**

**Founders:**

Dr. B. Carl Edward and Jeanette Edwards

**Administrative Staff**

Dr. Dr. Lisa Cooper, President/Chancellor

Dr. Joseph Albert, Academic Dean

Dr. Dennis Moore, Academic Dean

Dr. Eddie Hare, Jr., Academic Dean

Dr. Calvin Moore, Board Member

Patrick Davis, Sr., Board Member

Dr. Sandra Y. Hare, Administrative Assistant

**Professors:**

Dr. Joseph Albert, Th.D.

Dr. Howard Baker, Th.D.

Dr. Lisa Cooper, Th.D.

Dr. Michael Dotson, PhD.

Dr. Eddie Hare, Jr., Th.D.

Dr. Anthony Majors, D.Min.

Dr. Dennis Moore, D.Min

Dr. Michael Pasley, D.Min.

Dr. Gloria Word, Th.D.

**Thesis –Dissertation Projects**

Dr. Gloria Word, Th.D.

**Contact Information:** **goodnewsboardsecretary@gmail.com**

**Dr. Lisa Cooper, President/Chancellor - 209-605-8777**

**Dr. Joseph Albert, Academic Dean - 925-963-3524**

**Dr. Eddie Hare Jr., Academic Dean - 209-400-5938**

**Dr. Dennis Moore, Academic Dean - 209-607-7446**